

Sonoma County Forest Conservation Working Group
General Members Meeting Minutes
Thursday, April 15, 2021
10:00am-12:00pm

Zoom Video Conference:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87434643360?pwd=QU1Ga3ltaXNJV2N4NkdmcjQ0UVRmQT09>

Meeting ID: 874 3464 3360 | Passcode: 556583

Or Phone Conference:

Dial (669) 900-6833, and when prompted, enter the Meeting ID: 874 3464 3360 and when prompted, enter the Passcode: 556583. You can mute and unmute yourself by pressing *6 on your phone.

Facilitator: Dee Swanhuysen

- I. **Funding Opportunities:** All (45 minutes)
 - a. CAL FIRE CCI grants (Ben Nicholls)
 - b. PG&E Settlement Funding for Vegetation Management (Kim)
 - c. Fledgling Fund, Catalyst Fund, Community Foundation (Dee)

- II. **General Updates:** All (30 minutes)
 - a. Updates from each attendee. Maximum 5 minutes per attendee; longer items will be scheduled for next month's agenda
 - b. Identify opportunities for Forest Working Group to provide support

- III. **Steering Committee Report:** Steering Committee (5 minutes)
 - a. Scheduling regular meeting week prior to Members Meeting

- IV. **2021-2022 Two-Year Work Plan Draft:** Kim Batchelder (10 minutes)
 - a. Review Steering Committee's Final draft. See highlighted areas:
 - i. Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
 - ii. Workforce development
 - iii. Forestland conservation
 - b. Approve Final Draft with a thumbs up/down vote
 - c. Link:
https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/ny8z3yyqhcxfw1p6s03kl/FINAL_SCFCWG_WorkPlan_2021-22.docx?dl=0&rlkey=tdas300ymqyavij010giodn51

- V. **Outreach Activities Updates:** All (20 minutes)

Hear updates and provide support to those developing the event or program.

 - a. Tour of Bear Flat Forest salvage logging operation (Fred Euphrat)
 - i. Saturday, May 8, 11am-2pm with lunch in the woods. Address: 6699 Mill Creek Road, Healdsburg, CA. Directions to come in email. Cap at 25 people.

 - b. Forest Landowner Bootcamp with SRJC Shone Farm (Jill Butler, Briana Boaz)
 - i. Waiting for pandemic situation to improve. SRJC may have in-person classes this fall. Potentially could launch the Bootcamp this fall, but spring may be more likely.

- ii. Discussing hands-on, in-field instruction on forest ecology, management, diseases/pests, fire safety, fuels reduction, chainsaw use and safety.
- c. Pre-Fire Forest Management Project Tours (various hosts)
 - i. Instead of hosting one event, do a series of tours of sites where pre-fire forest management has been done
 - 1. Shaded fuel breaks at Saddle Mt or Calabazas Preserve. AOSD could host a walk, describe planning and implementation w/ Fred Euphrat, Leslie Lew, Monica Delmartini.
 - 2. Multiple treatment types at Pacific Union College.
 - 3. State Parks has some thinning (?) projects. Contact Brendan O'Neil
 - 4. Kashaya Forest Lands. Contact Matt Greene.
 - 5. Showcase a variety of landscapes and ownership types. Fred has put together a compendium of different forest ecological areas, could review for ideas about where to go.
- d. Agriculture and Forestry (Dee S.)
 - i. What forestry needs or questions do farmers, ranchers, vineyard managers have that we can help answer? Tawny Tesconi Farm Bureau could be a partner.
- e. Ecological fuels management in various habitat types (Ellie Insley)
 - i. Determined that we would like to make a subcommittee for this topic to continue learning, outreaching and supporting the work happening in this space.
 - 1. Mark Newhouser, Jason Mills, Adriana, Devyn Friedfel (when available), Steven Swain (when available).
 - 2. Spanish speaking materials are key
- f. Update to Sonoma County Tree Ordinance (Robert Aguero)
 - i. April-May is a good time to meet with FWG to review existing ordinances and take FWG input/questions.
- g. Tour of Pacific Union College Forest (Peter Lecourt)
 - i. Spring date TBD

VI. Future Agenda Items: All (10 minutes)

- a. Speakers for May, June, July
- b. Ag & Open Space, "Vital Lands Initiative," Allison Schichtel, Misti Arias, May 2021
- c. Pepperwood Preserve, "[Wildfire Fuel Mapper](#)," Tosha Comendant, June 2021
- d. Who would we like to hear from in July? Fire Season 2021 Outlook?

Upcoming Forest Working Group Meetings:

- General Membership Meeting, May 20, 2021, 10am-12pm on Zoom
- General Membership Meeting, June 17, 2021, 10am-12pm on Zoom
- General Membership Meeting, July 15, 2021, 10am-12pm on Zoom

